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HUMAN RIGHTS

Hazim Ismail's fight to stay in Canada, as first reported in Metro, comes to a happy end

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STONEY CREEK BRIDGE

City insurer files $2.2M lawsuit

Neither department heads nor elected officials say they were made aware of a lawsuit filed by the city's insurer over allegedly negligent advice provided by a engineering firm on the design of Sturgeon Creek bridge.

Coun. Janice Lukes, chairperson of the city's committee on infrastructure renewal and public works, was informed by legal services Tuesday that the city's insurer is suing Stantec Consulting Ltd. for $2.2 million in alleged damages, after a structural wall that supports the bridge was washed out in March 2014.

"Like I've said many times before, we have communication problems at the city," Lukes said.

"Clearly there's a misconception that councillors know everything. We don't. It's challenging to get information out of the departments."

According to a statement of claim filed to the Court of Queen's Bench on Mar. 29, the city hired Stantec to provide engineering services for the construction of a bridge over Sturgeon Creek in 2011. Part of the design included a mechanically stabilized earth wall (MSE), that would support the superstructure of the bridge and the road surface along the creek's riverbank.

"Stantec advised the City that it would not be feasible or necessary to determine the exact location of the water main prior to comment the design and construction of the project," the claim reads.

It goes on to say that on the advice of Stantec, the earthen wall was built on top of the water main.

Around March 28, 2014, it says, "the water main broke, causing a significant portion of the MSE Wall to be washed out and the MSE Wall becoming structurally unstable."

Lester Deane, director of public works, said he first learned of the lawsuit Tuesday morning.

He said the water main line has been relocated, and the bridge is structurally safe and sound.

> **We wouldn't be putting any traffic or even people over the bridge if we felt there was a risk to the public.**
>
> Lester Deane

"We wouldn't be putting any traffic or even people over the bridge if we felt there was a risk to the public," he told reporters Tuesday. "All the repairs have been undertaken already."

But Lukes said to her knowledge, staff never reported the incident to the public works committee.

Deane couldn't say for sure whether or not the matter was ever publicity addressed, but said it was reported and dealt with internally.

"This is all news to me," Lukes said.

"Again, how many times have I said this? It's not acceptable. We should be informed of this, we are here to provide oversight. It's difficult to provide oversight when you're not informed on things." STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

Councillor defends call for house search

VOLUNTEERS

Rooming properties pose safety concerns: Coun. Lukes

Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

Despite recent backlash, one Winnipeg councillor is sticking by her call for volunteers to go door-to-door and search online for properties being used as rooming houses near the University of Manitoba.

Janice Lukes told reporters Tuesday that she anticipated some pushback from community members outside her St. Norbert ward, after calling on volunteers to help search out houses that have been improperly converted from single-family to multi-use dwellings.

In many cases, she says these homes are run by absentee landlords who rent out the property to as many as 8-10 people, particularly young students, in order to generate cash.

"When you live on a street and you've got six, seven, eight properties with absentee landlords, there's a lot of activity that goes on on that street that is not desirable," Lukes explained.

Coun. Janice Lukes says she expected some backlash for her call for volunteers to track down rooming houses in her ward. METRO FILE

"So all these other communities around the city that are saying, 'Oh, this is Big Brother,' you live on a street with six rental properties with absentee landlords and you see what you're living with."

Besides the livability factor, Lukes pointed to the safety concerns raised by having too many renters crammed into a tight space.

She listed University Heights and Fort Richmond as areas heavily populated by rooming houses.

> **No one knows that street better than the people living on it.**
>
> Coun. Janice Lukes

Lukes said that information collected by volunteers would be passed along to the city's by-law enforcement department, adding that a new website is in the works to help residents better report infractions, and educate students about what they should look for in a rental property.

"No one knows that street better than the people living on it."

Bear Clan bares empathetic teeth to keep community safe

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Volunteer patrol group boasts nearly 100 members

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

The Bear Clan is growing, and so is its reach.

When the volunteer-based group of neighbourhood watchmen and watchwomen began patrolling the north end in July 2015, it was about picking up "some of the non-policing issues" in the community, says group leader James Favel.

He said the death of Tina Fontaine sparked the group into action, that the community always cared and this is now caring "with a little more teeth."

"That was what drove us … our mandate has been, since the beginning, (to) protect the women and children, the elderly and the vulnerable members of our community," he said. "It just seems to keep growing."

Originally, a handful of Bear Clan members, "maybe four or five," would hit the streets every evening between Thursday and Sunday.

Now there are, on average, "over 20 individuals on patrol" on a rotating basis through those evenings.

The Bear Clan is closer to 100 members now, and processing around 20 applications for new members each week.

And in the meantime, its patch has been seen far from the north end as those members have been called upon to support dozens of larger search efforts for missing youth, including Cooper Nemeth, 17, and most recently, two-year-old Chase Martens.

> **Protect the women and children, the elderly and the vulnerable.**
> James Favel

He and several Bear Clan members drove out to Austin, Man., for the latter search — about 120 kilometres each way — funding the trip themselves and taking time off in some cases to do so.

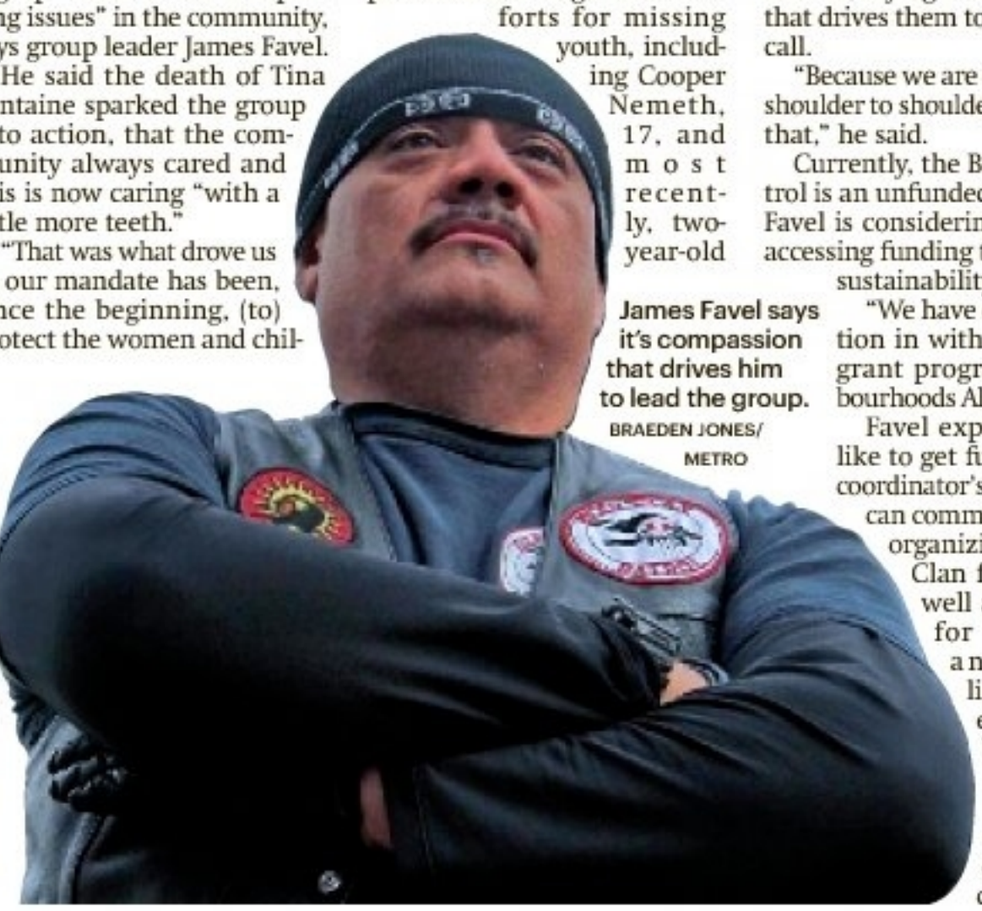
He said those hard times call for a helping hand from groups like his, saying it's compassion that drives them to answer the call.

"Because we are on the road, shoulder to shoulder, we can do that," he said.

Currently, the Bear Clan Patrol is an unfunded group, but Favel is considering means of accessing funding to ensure its sustainability.

"We have one application in with (provincial grant program) Neighbourhoods Alive," he said.

Favel explained he'd like to get funding for a coordinator's salary so he can commit himself to organizing the Bear Clan full-time, as well as a budget for honoraria and things like bus passes for members visiting the north end to patrol from outside the community.



James Favel says it's compassion that drives him to lead the group. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

The Bear Clan says they've grown from about five members to about 100. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

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Meet 10 of Manitoba's FUTURE 40

If entries in this year's instalment of the Future 40 are any indication, Manitoba has a wealth of future leaders. CBC Manitoba and Metro received 137 nominations celebrating our next generation of leaders under the age of 40. Our judges have made the final cut. We'll reveal 10 finalists a day through Thursday. **CBC MANITOBA**

Corey King, 30
Category: Arts, Culture and Entertainment

Corey King is a local innovator, an award-winning producer and storyteller who has successfully worked across an array of media including film, publishing, journalism, art and gaming. He is also the creator of the augmented reality project Clandestine: Anomaly, which has garnered local and international awards. When he isn't mentoring teens and young adults, he is volunteering his time and expertise to various innovation, creativity panels and roundtables in Winnipeg.

Lisa Malbranck, 36
Category: Business and Entrepreneurship

Lisa Malbranck is a community-focused young entrepreneur. She co-owns the Diamond Gallery, where she works as a jewelry designer and a gemologist. This past year, Lisa spearheaded #UnwrapWPG, a shop local campaign with the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce. Lisa is dedicated to giving back to her community through her family business with fundraising projects such as the Diamond Gallery Giving Tree, which has supported charities including: RAY, Art City, Winnipeg Harvest and the Sunshine Fund to name a few.

Mohammad Almaleki, 21
Category: Business and Entrepreneurship

Mohammad Almaleki is a real estate developer focused on providing affordable and appropriate housing for vulnerable and marginalized communities in Manitoba. Since December 2015, Almaleki has helped settle more than 500 Syrian refugees in Winnipeg. As a refugee himself he sees this as both a great opportunity and an incredible way to give back. Currently, Mohammad is working on new projects to provide safe transitional housing for the homeless, as well as accessible housing for those with disabilities.

Nadia Kidwai, 33
Category: Community, Social Activism and Volunteerism

Since arriving in Winnipeg in 2004, she has worked in various sectors with a passion for diversity, multiculturalism and community empowerment through grassroots community development, journalism and as a co-founder of the Canadian Muslim Leadership Institute. Nadia is Chair of the Manitoba Women's Advisory Council, advising the Minister Responsible for the Status of Women, and a council member of the Immigration Partnership Winnipeg. Nadia leads Next Up Winnipeg and works for the Canadian CED Network.

Christie McLeod, 25
Category: Community, Social Activism and Volunteerism

Christie McLeod founded the #shoalidarity campaign and helped to found the coalition Friends of Shoal Lake 40. Christie is also the founder and Managing Director of the Human Rights Hub Winnipeg website. When not working in her position as Executive Director for the Mondetta Charity Foundation, she volunteers as the secretary of the Institute for International Women's Rights and is also a member of the Provincial Council of Women of Manitoba, where she sits on their Resolutions Committee.

Steven Watson, 35
Category: Teaching and Health Care

In Chef Steven Watson's most recent graduating class at Patal Vocational Schools, 13 aboriginal students gathered to receive their Culinary Arts Certificates. Included in the class was one student who now operates his own food truck; a married couple; and one young woman who has turned her life of violence and chaos into one with a promising future for her and her children. Watson has also received an award from the City of Winnipeg for helping to save passengers from a plane that crash-landed at McPhillips Street and Logan Avenue in 2002.

Tracie Afifi, 38
Category: Teaching and Health Care

Dr. Tracie Afifi is an Associate Professor and researcher at the University of Manitoba. Her research focuses on understanding how child maltreatment is related to mental and physical health problems; how to help children who have been maltreated; and how to prevent child abuse. In 2013 she received the Canadian Coalition for the Rights of Children, Children's Rights Supporter Award. In 2014, she was recognized as a leading mental health researcher in the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority WAVE magazine.

Jaime Black, 35
Category: Arts, Culture and Entertainment

Jaime Black is a Métis artist who uses new media, installations and multimedia performances to create dialogue on issues of social, political and environmental urgency. Her REDress Project has generated discussion on the impact of colonialism, racism and misogyny faced by Indigenous women, and has inspired a nationwide movement. Over the past five years, Black has hung more than 600 donated red dresses in public spaces. Her current project, Dust, focuses on Cree communities impacted by hydro development.

Monica Cyr, 36
Category: Teaching and Health Care

Lifelong learner, student and popular public speaker, Monica Cyr teaches health and cultural knowledge at the North End Food Security Network, Youville, Siloam Mission, Barbara Mitchell Centre and Promoting Aboriginal Community Together. A founding member of the Indigenous Circle of Empowerment, member of Migizii Agamik and the University of Manitoba Aboriginal Students' Association, she is a strong Métis leader, engendering change through passion, positive attitude and service.

Akosua Tiwaah Bonsu, 22
Category: Community, Social Activism and Volunteerism

Akosua Tiwaah Bonsu is a fourth-year Global Political Economy major at the University of Manitoba; a Big Sister with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Winnipeg; member of the Young Canadians Roundtable on Health; Volunteer Coordinator of the University of Manitoba's Cystic Fibrosis Canada campaign; and Ambassador General of Folklorama
In 2013, Akosua was selected from 800 applicants to represent Manitoba on an international trade and development mission to Asia. She is now a mission team leader with Global Vision.

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Gay refugee can stay here

HUMAN RIGHTS

Canada agrees student's life at risk in Malaysia

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Hazim Ismail expected his refugee hearing to last between two and four hours, but within an hour of the hearing start Tuesday morning, he'd learned he would be allowed to stay in Canada.

Tuesday's decision from the Immigration and Refugee Board follows months of waiting after the University of Winnipeg student went through the ordeal of being outed as gay and atheist in his home country of Malaysia, where atheism is not accepted and homosexuality is illegal.

"What happened was I was outed to the Malaysian media, they published stories without my consent, it went viral and thousands of Malaysians ... I got death threats," he said.

"My safety was jeopardized.... I was advised to file a refugee claim."

He said being allowed to stay will help him to be a "normal student," and avoid serious threats he was getting back home.

"It's a real fear," he said, noting the danger of violence was serious, and that he hasn't heard from his family in a while, either.

A cadre of his friends and supporters rallied with signs outside of the immigration hearing Tuesday morning.

> **It's suffocating to try to live underground.**
> Hazim Ismail

"These people have been helping me to stabilize and to cope," Ismail said.

Jacqueline Pelland, one of Ismail's peers, said his story was "heartbreaking," which is why she turned out to support him.

"As a country we continuously claim we are very inclusive and that we promote this multicultural entity.... In order to maintain that I would think that (we provide safety to) all people (who) are seeking asylum when their home country is very hostile to that return," she said.

Ismail's lawyer Bashir Khan said it was a clear case, as Ismail had been outed, he was "in danger if he (was) to go back to Malaysia."

"Well I've done cases of atheists before from say, Saudi Arabia, and they have succeeded.... Ninety per cent of the stress of the case has to do with his sexuality... the stronger point here is the fact that he is gay and has come out," Khan said.

Khan noted that the fact Ismail is also atheist raised his profile in Malaysian media further.

Ismail said he hopes his story inspires others to seek permanent asylum.

"There are definitely others, LGBT people who come from places where they would be persecuted and I guess they have sort of a passive mentality engrained into them by societal norms," he said.

"I would hope they would feel brave about coming out and seeking protection because it's suffocating to try to live underground."

Jacqueline Pelland stands with Hazim Ismail before his hearing on Tuesday. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

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ENTERTAINMENT

From coffee shop to comedy stage

Winnipegger Autumn Crossman says it's ironic she is performed her stand-up comedy routine at the Millennium Library during a free noon-hour show Tuesday.

"I happen to work at the library coffee shop, so I guess the regulars will find out if I'm really all that funny," the 25-year-old joked before the show, part of this week's Winnipeg Comedy Festival (WCF).

Crossman also competed in Women's Open Mic Night at Jekyll and Hyde's Freehouse recently and was one of 10 performers to win a spot to take the stage there for an exclusive festival show later Tuesday evening.

"I was so surprised that I was picked, because there are a lot of really funny and talented women who competed for this opportunity."

In addition, she's participating in the WCF's You're Welcome at 2 p.m. on Sunday April 10 at the Gas Station Arts Centre.

Crossman, who is new to the comedy scene, is also an illustrator and aspiring graphic novelist who has self-published and printed original comics.

As a Muslim, she says she doesn't mind making the odd cultural joke, but prefers to stick to things that happen in her everyday life because according to her "a lot of weird stuff happens to me, and most of it is pretty funny."

Crossman said her love for comedy came from watching classic TV shows with her dad, such as M*A*S*H, Seinfeld, Frasier and other comedy shows.

> **A lot of weird stuff happens to me, and most of it is pretty funny.**
> Autumn Crossman

Once she found out there was a women's open mic night, she said she figured she would give it a shot.

And now she is hooked.

"I really like it that there is an open mic specifically for women, because comedy has typically been a boys world. And boys are gross," she chuckled.

MICHELLE BAILEY/FOR METRO

Autumn Crossman will perform at the **Gas Station Arts Centre** on April 10 as part of the Winnipeg Comedy Festival. CONTRIBUTED

Mary Bridget Davies plays the title role in A Night with Janis Joplin, at the Burton Cummings Theatre until Sunday. CONTRIBUTED

Janis Joplin tribute is a little piece of the past

MUSIC

Show honours the late star's black influences

Elisha Dacey
Metro | Winnipeg

One can hear it in her speaking voice before she ever sings.

Mary Bridget Davies is the voice behind A Night With Janis Joplin, now touring at the Burton Cummings Theatre until Sunday.

The rasp and power that defined Joplin's voice can be heard in Davies' voice while talking to her — and it's a voice and performance that won her a Tony nomination for the role while the show was on Broadway.

"I got involved with the show in the summer of 2012," said Davies. "We toured it regionally and we got to New York City the summer of 2013." The show ran on Broadway until February of 2014, said Davies, and the cast decided to "remount it on this, like, killer tour."

Davies said one of her favourite things about the production, which celebrates Joplin and her biggest musical influences, is that it's not only fronted by a strong woman, but supported by female actors playing prominent female musicians.

> **When they're not covering as backup singers ... they're embodying these iconic women.**
> Mary Bridget Davies

Joplin's influences include Aretha Franklin, Etta James, Odetta, Nina Simone and Bessie Smith, and they're all represented prominently in the production.

"We have four insanely talented black women in the show," Davies said. "When they're not covering as backup singers in some capacity, they're embodying these iconic women.

"So it's not just a Janis Joplin tribute show."

The show focuses on Joplin's music and almost-instant success, and features hits such as Piece of My Heart, Cry Baby and Me and Bobby McGee.

Tickets start at $29.50 and can be purchased at Ticketmaster.

Jobs key to help kids: PCs

FAMILY

Advocate says the solution to children in care more complex

Manitoba's Progressive Conservative leader says his party can reduce the record number of children in care by ensuring parents have jobs.

During an economic announcement Tuesday, Brian Pallister said he will address Manitoba's child-welfare crisis by boosting the economy if his party forms government April 19.

"Poverty and the demand for CFS services are inseparably linked," Pallister said in response to a question at an event in a north Winnipeg riding. "The fewer job opportunities there are for working Manitobans and families, the more demand there will be for CFS services.

"We're talking about job creation today, because it's at the cornerstone of how we work our way out of the dilemma we face."

Manitoba has more than 10,000 kids in the care of Child and Family Services. The vast majority are indigenous. The province has one of the highest apprehension rates in Canada and seizes an average of one newborn baby a day. The cost of the department has ballooned to almost $500 million and routinely is criticized for apprehending too many children or repeatedly returning others to abusive guardians.

Brian Pallister says ensuring parents have jobs is how to get children out of provincial care. Manitoba has more than 10,000 in the care of Child and Family Services. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO FILE

> **Poverty and the demand for CFS services are inseparably linked.**
> Brian Pallister

The Conservatives while in Opposition have been harshly critical of the NDP for its handling of child-welfare services but have not formally presented alternatives since the campaign began last month.

Pallister initially bristled when asked about the party's social platform Tuesday, saying he was only there to discuss "our message today" regarding small-business policy.

"You're choosing the questions and I'm choosing which ones to respond to," Pallister said.

He later apologized. Somebody has to foot the bill for social services, which is why the province has to encourage small businesses, Pallister said.

First Nations children's advocate Cora Morgan said the solution is much more complex.

Whoever forms the next provincial government, she said, has to address intergenerational trauma of residential schools and the effects of the '60s Scoop, in which indigenous children were taken from their homes and placed with non-indigenous families.

The province also has to bolster support for addictions issues and help for women escaping domestic violence, she suggested.

None of the three mainstream parties is really addressing the problem, she said.

"We have something that is really horrific happening in Manitoba and it's not getting the attention that it deserves," said Morgan. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Greg Selinger promises new patient advocate

Manitoba NDP Leader Greg Selinger is promising to set up a new patient advocate if he is re-elected premier.

Selinger says the appointed person would help patients and their families get answers when something goes wrong and there is a critical incident review.

Selinger also promised new money for health-care centres, including one-third funding for the Concordia Wellness Centre in northeast Winnipeg. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pallister commits to joining western trade agreement

Manitoba Progressive Conservatives are promising to join a western trade agreement if they win the provincial election.

Leader Brian Pallister has long committed to joining the New West Partnership and has now made it part of his official platform.

Pallister says joining the other western provinces would open up more opportunities to Manitoba companies and create more jobs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ken Nawolsky says the city still has nearly 5,000 litres of malathion in storage. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

New weapon vs. skeeters

INSECT CONTROL

City looking at switch to more eco-friendly pesticide

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

The city might be changing up its vampiric insect repellent soon, but not this year.

Ken Nawolsky, superintendent of insect control, said the chemical malathion will be used during any adult mosquito control program this summer, just as it has for the past 10 years.

He said there is about 4,550 litres of the stuff in storage, enough to treat the entire city more than twice, and "minimal risk of using the remaining stocks of malathion in 2016."

But looking forward, the City of Winnipeg could change to more eco-friendly "DeltaGard."

While it's currently not approved for use in Canada, Nawolsky said it has a "low toxicity to mammals" and it "doesn't accumulate in the environment."

Plus, it works, he said.

In trials conducted last summer, the new product was "98 per cent effective in controlling the mosquitoes up to 90 metres," according to Nawolsky.

The trials were authorized by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency, and data gathered was shared with that body in an effort to speed the product's approval for use.

Nawolski said the city will change to the new product as soon as it gets the green light for use in Canada, which could be as early as 2017.

"We are happy with the results," he said. "It's a reduced-risk pesticide, which means it has more favourable and less toxic properties compared to conventional pesticides, for example, like malathion."

The city's approach is still focusing on larvicide and killing mosquito larvae first, before malathion is needed for the adulticide part of control.

IN BRIEF

Liberals promise better camping reservations

Manitoba Liberals are promising a better way to reserve camping spots if the party should win the April 19 election.

Ian McCausland, a candidate in west Winnipeg, says a Liberal government would replace the current system in which campsites across the province open for reservations on the same day. He says staggered dates would be brought in to avoid long waits.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Province's first patient to request assisted death dies

Manitoba's first patient to request death with the help of a doctor has died.

The Winnipeg Regional Health Authority issued a statement late Tuesday evening. "As the family of the first patient in Manitoba to be granted permission from the Court to exercise their right to die with dignity, we would like to confirm that our beloved family member has passed away," reads a statement sent on behalf of the famiiy. METRO

ROADS

Officer allegedly spat on at scene of pileup

A woman is accused of causing a five-car pileup in Winnipeg and spitting on a police officer who was called to the scene.

Police say 14 people were injured when a vehicle went over the median Monday at about 9 p.m. on Portage Avenue near Woodslands Crescent and into oncoming traffic.

They allege the 36-year-old woman was at the wheel when the crash happened.

They also say she spit on an officer who was investigating the accident.

Most of the injuries were minor.

Alcohol is believed to have been a factor.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ CJOB, CTV WINNIPEG

A woman has been arrested after a major crash on Portage Avenue Monday night. CBC MANITOBA/WENDY BUELOW

John McCallum faces off against private sponsors

REFUGEE CRISIS

Feds quietly stopped making sponsorship a top priority

Responding to public outrage over delays in bringing Syrian refugees to Canada, Immigration Minister John McCallum will meet with private sponsorship groups on Thursday to explore options.

"What I can say to you right now is I'm doing everything in my power to speed the process up as much as we can to admit as many Syrian refugees as possible, as quickly as possible," he told dozens of protesters on his way to a luncheon hosted by the C.D. Howe Institute Tuesday.

"We have to do it as quickly as possible and I know you want to help. I appreciate that. … I will be meeting with (former Toronto mayor) John Sewell to talk about it in more detail."

It was the first faceoff between the embattled McCallum and members of private sponsorship groups since Ottawa quietly stopped making it a priority to process Syrian sponsorship applications, shortly after meeting its goal of bringing in 25,000 Syrian refugees by the end of February.

Immigration Minister John McCallum THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Last week, the government did briefly extend the deadline for community and faith groups to submit new applications, but refugee sponsors were further angered by the 24-hour notice they had to finish incomplete applications.

Three dozen people from various sponsorship groups — many of them elderly — braved the bitter cold to get their message across.

"The government really needs to put the staff back in place to deal with the refugee families already assigned to the sponsors," said Vandra Masemann of the Safe Haven sponsorship group. "This is not just about the Syrians, but Canada's policy about refugees in general."

Raising a sign that said "We are sunny ways," in reference to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's victory speech in championing optimism, her friend, Pamela Harris, said the slowdown in processing Syrian files doesn't make sense in light of the public support of the sponsorship program.

Sewell said he would ask the immigration minister to restore staffing capacity to process the Syrian applications and bring families already with applications in the system to Canada in three months and no later than the end of July. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BOAT CAPSIZING

Lawsuit launched over Tofino tragedy

Two men who survived last year's fatal capsizing of a whale-watching boat off Vancouver Island have launched a proposed class-action lawsuit against the tour company.

Brothers Dirk and Christian Barchfeld of Germany have filed a statement of claim in British Columbia Supreme Court accusing Jamie's Whaling Station in Tofino, B.C., of negligence.

The lawsuit also names the company's owner Jamie Bray and the ship's captain Wayne Dolby, and says they should have known better than to allow the Leviathan II out during unsafe ocean conditions.

Five Britons and an Australian died after the 20-metre tour vessel flipped with 27 people on board.

The Transportation Safety Board is conducting an investigation to determine the cause of the incident.

The allegations haven't been tested in court and no statement of defence has been filed by the defendants. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The bow of the Leviathan II, a whale-watching boat owned by Jamie's Whaling Station carrying 24 passengers and three crew members that capsized in October, 2015. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drake accused of bullying photogs

TORONTO

Rapper said to have charged pair, demanded they delete pics

Drake by the helicopter. MATT SMALL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Two amateur photographers met Drake on Monday and said the rapper was on his worst behaviour.

Matt Small, a 28-year-old and hobby photographer, said he was taking pictures of a sunset from Toronto's Polson Pier on Monday when a luxury helicopter landed nearby and produced a VIP passenger: Drake.

Small turned his camera toward the aircraft and snapped away as Drake emerged.

A six-foot-tall fence topped with barbed wire and about 20 feet separated Small from the rapper. Then, Small said, Drake's friend demanded to know who he was.

Small, thinking the group presumed him to be a paparazzo, replied: "I'm nobody."

That's when Drake charged a portion of the fence without the barbed wire and scaled it, said Michael Massie, a 32-year-old family doctor and amateur photographer also there Monday.

"He was in my face, saying, 'You need to delete those pictures out of respect,'" Small said. "I said, 'You're not respecting me right now, man; you're in my face harassing me.'"

Drake then began taking pictures of him, Small said, repeating: 'I got you.'"

At this point, Small "felt like they were going to do something," so he yelled, "Help, someone please call the police."

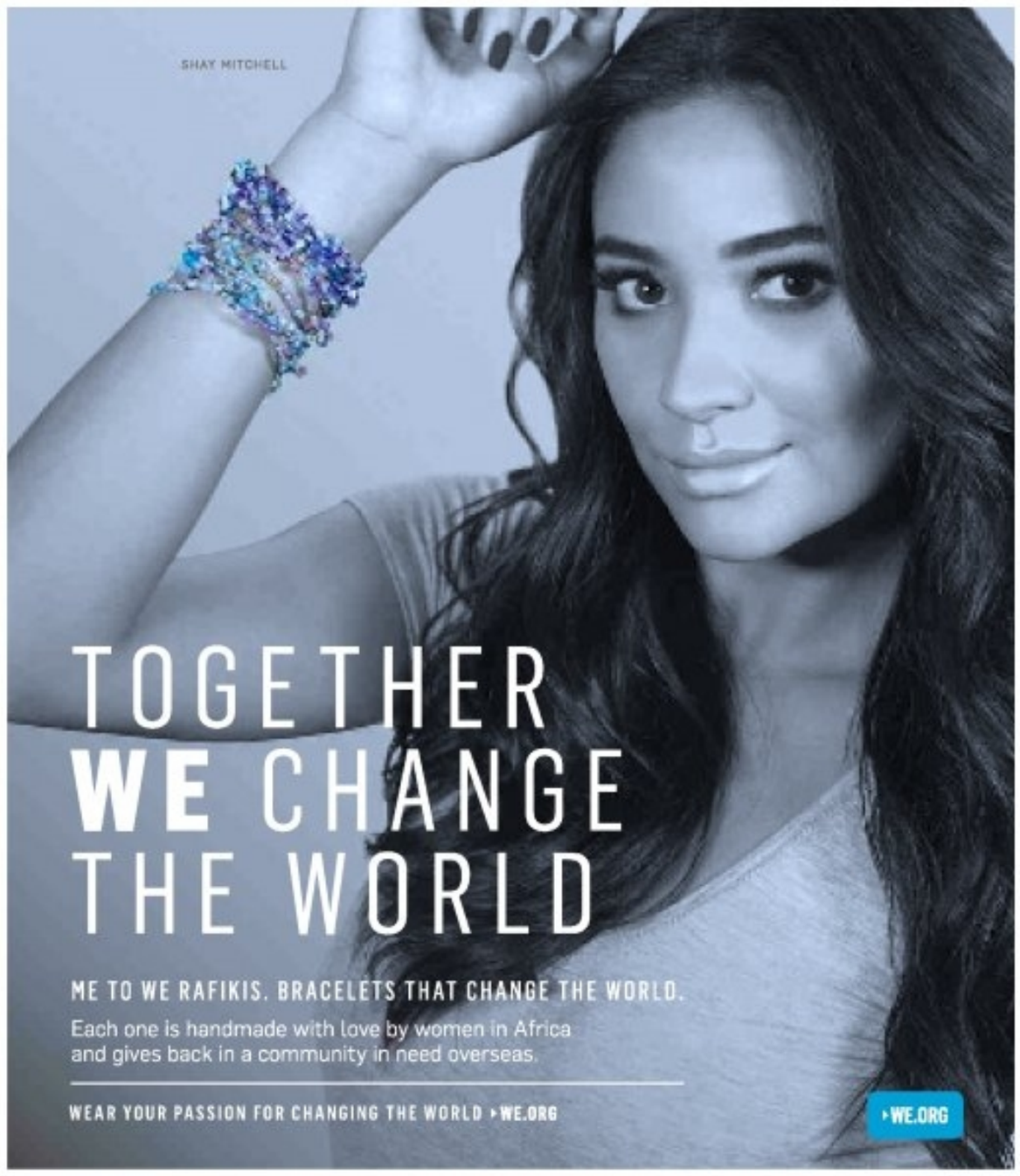
As Drake's friend grabbed for Small's camera and tried to yank out the memory card, Massie heard the cry and approached.

"I said, 'Whatever's going on, someone tell me, otherwise I'm calling the police right now.'"

As Drake began walking back to his limo, the rapper asked Massie his name. "He points back and says: 'I'm going to find you, Michael,'" Massie said.

A representative for Drake declined a request for comment.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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International court dismisses case against Kenya's deputy president

A Kenyan man sits in the cab of a destroyed truck used as a makeshift roadblock during post-election violence in Kisumu, Kenya, in 2008. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

AFRICA

Judge says lack of evidence due to 'political meddling'

The International Criminal Court terminated the case against Kenya's deputy president and ended his trial Tuesday, saying there was insufficient evidence he was involved in deadly violence that erupted after his country's 2007 presidential election.

The presiding judge wrote in the majority decision that the reason for the lack of evidence was possibly "witness interference and political meddling."

The announcement marks the second time the court has had to admit defeat in its attempts to prosecute the alleged ringleaders of the violence that left more than 1,000 people dead and forced 600,000 from their homes in Kenya.

Kenyan Deputy President William Ruto had been charged alongside broadcaster Joshua Sang with murder, deportation and persecution for their alleged leading roles in the violence. The case against Sang was also closed Tuesday.

Supporters of the men cheered the decision, while human rights activists lamented that the victims of the violence had been denied justice.

Local TV in Kenya showed both men waving their arms in the air in celebration and being hugged by Ruto's staff.

In Ruto's hometown of Eldoret, thousands of people took to the streets carrying placards, saying "Free at last" and "Ruto welcome home, you have suffered enough, you were innocent all the time."

A case against President Uhuru Kenyatta on similar charges collapsed in December 2014 amid prosecution claims of interference with witnesses and non-co-operation by authorities in Nairobi.

Three Kenyans have been charged with interfering with witnesses.

Abdrew Songa of the Kenya Human Rights Commission said "systematic witness tampering and intimidation experienced in the Kenya cases has denied thousands of victims of the postelection violence the justice they rightfully deserve."

+ 'WEAKNESSES'

According to a court statement, Presiding Judge Chile Eboe-Osuji said "it cannot be discounted that the weaknesses in the Prosecution case might be explained by the demonstrated incidence of tainting of the trial process by way of witness interference and political meddling."

In a statement Tuesday, Kenyatta criticized the court for what he branded a decision to "blindly pursue (an) ill-conceived, defective agenda at the expense of accountability" for the violence and said the court had "given Kenyans false hope, and as a result, occasioned much disappointment."

He called in a tweet for Kenyans to attend a thanksgiving service at the Afraha Stadium in the Rift Valley town of Nakuru on April 16. Following the postelection violence, the stadium was used to house people forced from their homes.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NORTH CAROLINA

PayPal cancels job-expansion plans over anti-gay legislation

PayPal said Tuesday that it was scrapping a $3.6-million, 400-job expansion in North Carolina, the biggest tangible economic backlash so far to a new state law that restricts protections for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

More than 100 corporate leaders have decried the law, saying it is unfair and makes it more difficult to attract talent. PayPal's announcement came days after Lionsgate decided to move the filming for the pilot episode of a comedy series to Canada.

"This decision reflects PayPal's deepest values and our strong belief that every person has the right to be treated equally, and with dignity and respect," the company said in a statement.

Meanwhile, organizers say some customers have pulled out of one of the world's largest furniture markets in High Point, and New Jersey-based Braeburn Pharmaceuticals said it was reconsidering building a $50 million facility in Durham County that would have created 50 jobs paying an average of $76,000 a year.

Republican Gov. Pat McCrory and legislative leaders did not respond to requests for comment on PayPal's decision. Just days before signing the law March 23, McCrory was on hand when PayPal announced plans for its new operation centre in Charlotte, his hometown.

A group that supported the legislation said PayPal pulled out after receiving millions in corporate incentives. The North Carolina Values Coalition said in a statement that "a company with its hands in the pockets of the taxpayers of North Carolina shouldn't insert itself into the bathroom policies of the state."

The legislation marked the first state law in the nation limiting the bathroom options for transgender people, requiring them to use those conforming to the sex on their birth certificates. The law also excludes lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people from anti-discrimination protections, and blocks municipalities from adopting their own anti-discrimination and living wage rules.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leak threatens world leaders

PANAMA PAPERS

Iceland PM resigns, while others shirk questions

Within 48 hours, the largest leak of confidential documents in history has shaken the foundations of power around the world, triggering the resignation of Iceland's prime minister and sending political shock waves from Pakistan to Argentina to Ukraine.

Prime Minister Sigmundur Gunnlaugsson relented to withering public pressure Tuesday, stepping down as Iceland's leader one day after thousands gathered outside parliament in protest over revelations he held a secret offshore company.

The revelations were contained in the Panama Papers — a collection of 11.5 million documents leaked from the computers of a Panamanian law firm called Mossack Fonseca, obtained by the German newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung and the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and shared with the Toronto Star.

Gunnlaugsson is far from being the only world leader exposed for hiding corporations and money in far-flung tax havens. The files contain evidence of offshore companies controlled by the presidents of Argentina and Ukraine, and the King of Saudi Arabia.

They also include 128 other politicians and public officials and at least 33 people and companies blacklisted by the U.S. government because of evidence they've done business with Mexican drug lords, terrorist organizations like Hezbollah or pariah nations like North Korea and Iran. Like Gunnlaugsson, whose interests were formally held by his wife, many world leaders are connected to the offshore world through an intermediary — either a close family member or friend.

Here are some leaders whose secret offshore financial dealings have come under scrutiny.

People protest in front of Parliament building in Reykjavik, Iceland, on Tuesday. The leak of millions of records on offshore accounts claims its first high-profile victim as Iceland's prime minister resigns amid outrage over revelations he used such a shell company to conceal a conflict of interest. DAVID KEYTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAKISTAN

Leak: The children of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif owned London real estate through companies created by Mossack Fonseca.

Response: Did not respond

Fallout: Sharif has bowed to the opposition's demand for an independent investigation into the Sharif family holdings.

"This is a strange logic that if our children earn their legitimate money inside the country there is criticism, and if they work hard overseas and establish and run businesses, even then they are targeted by allegations," the PM said.

UNITED KINGDOM

Leak: The father of Prime Minister David Cameron was a Mossack Fonseca client who used the law firm to shield his investment fund — Blairmore Holdings, Inc. — from U.K. taxes. Ian Cameron, a millionaire stockbroker who died in 2010, used untraceable shareholder certificates known as "bearer shares" and employed "nominee" company directors in the creation of a Panamanian investment fund.

Response: Did not respond.

Fallout: When the dealings of Cameron's father were made public, the PM's office issued a terse statement that there would be no comment on what amounted to "a private matter." Cameron has since faced a barrage of questions about his financial affairs, and whether he had inherited any interest in the offshore fund from his father. On Wednesday, Cameron's office stated that neither the PM, nor his wife or children currently have any offshore holdings, but wouldn't answer questions about whether they had any in the past.

Iceland PM Sigmundur David Gunnlaugsson AFP/GETTY IMAGES

ARGENTINA

Leak: President Mauricio Macri was director and vice-president of an undisclosed Bahamas company managed by Mossack Fonseca when he was a businessman and mayor of Buenos Aires.

Response: A spokesman for Macri said the president never personally owned shares in the firm, which was part of his family's business.

Fallout: After the allegations were published, Macri said he did not disclose his interest because he had no stake in the firm. Macri later elaborated in a televised interview, explaining that his tycoon father Franco Macri, one of the richest men in Argentina, had founded the company through a "legal operation."

UKRAINE

Leak: Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko is the sole shareholder of Prime Asset Partners Ltd., a holding company in the British Virgin Islands (BVI). This corporate structure was set up in August 2014, as Russian troops were marching into Eastern Ukraine.

Response: A spokesperson for Poroshenko said the creation of the company had nothing to do with "any political and military events in Ukraine." Poroshenko's financial advisers said the president didn't include the BVI firm in his 2014 financial disclosures because neither the holding company nor two related companies in Cyprus and the Netherlands have any assets.

Fallout: Oleh Lyashko, head of the populist Radical party that once was part of the governing coalition, has called for impeachment proceedings against Poroshenko.

EGYPT

Leak: The son of former president Hosni Mubarak was tied to a company registered by Mossack Fonseca. Alaa Mubarak, who owned the BVI firm Pan World Investments Inc., was arrested in 2011 along with his father after he was deposed.

Response: Did not respond.

Fallout: Egyptian media reported on Tuesday that Alaa Mubarak would be questioned by the Illicit Gains Authority about his offshore holdings.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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U.S. ELECTION

Donald Trump outlines new plan for Mexico wall

Donald Trump would try to force Mexico to pay for a border wall by targeting billions of dollars in remittances sent by immigrants living in the U.S., according to a memo released by his campaign Tuesday.

The memo outlines in new detail how Trump would try to compel Mexico to pay for the 1,000-mile wall he's promised to build along the Southern border if he becomes president.

In his proposal, Trump threatened to change a rule under the USA Patriot Act, an anti-terrorism law, to cut off a portion of the funds sent to Mexico through money transfers known as remittances. His plan would also bar non-Americans from wiring money outside of the U.S. unless they can provide documentation establishing their legal status in the country.

Trump said he would withdraw the threat if Mexico makes a one-time payment to finance the wall.

"It's an easy decision for Mexico: make a one-time payment of $5-10 billion to ensure that $24 billion continues to flow into their country year after year," the memo reads.

"Good luck with that," President Barack Obama said Tuesday in response to questions about Trump's proposal. He warned of the ramifications such a plan would have on the Mexican economy which, in turn, would drive more immigrants to cross the border in search of jobs.

"People expect the president of the United States and the elected officials in this country to treat these problems seriously, to put forward policies that have been examined, analyzed are effective, where unintended consequences are taken into account," Obama said. "They don't expect half-baked notions coming out of the White House. We can't afford that."

The billionaire businessman has estimated his proposed wall would cost between $10 billion and $12 billion, and has argued that it would protect the country from illegal border crossings as well as halting drug shipment. Mexico's President Enrique Pena Nieto has said his country will not pay for any such wall.

The U.S. is home to about 12 million Mexicans, some living there illegally.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WISCONSIN

Ted Cruz won a convincing and critical victory over Donald Trump in the Republican primary, while Bernie Sanders won Wisconsin's Democratic primary, defeating Hillary Clinton in a hotly contested state with a long progressive tradition.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Donald Trump speaks to voters and supporters outside a polling place on Tuesday in Waukesha, Wisconsin. GETTY IMAGES

MIGRANT CRISIS

Pope may visit Greek island to highlight refugees' plight

Pope Francis and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, the spiritual leader of the world's Orthodox Christians, will visit the island of Lesbos next week to highlight, as refugees and other migrants are being deported back to Turkey.

Under the EU's deal with Turkey, those arriving on Greek islands from March 20 onwards who do not apply for asylum in Greece or whose application is rejected or deemed inadmissible will be deported back to Turkey. For every Syrian returned to Turkey, another Syrian there will be relocated to a European country.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Banana splits less a-peeling

With expected shortages in everything from vanilla to bananas, your ice cream sundae ingredients will likely be a little pricier this summer. We melt down the reasons why sundae prices are set to rise. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

VANILLA

The top flavour of ice cream in Canada is suffering because demand is outstripping supply. Madagascar, the African island nation that's one of the world's leading vanilla-bean producers, experienced a poor harvest in the past year. The bean price has more than tripled, which is attributable not only to lower supply but poorer quality, since some growers harvested the bean prematurely. So cakes, ice cream or even perfume could face rising prices.

CHOCOLATE

After demand for the addictive treat hit an all-time high of 7.1 million tons in 2015, the recent slump in production has the industry worried. The jump in consumption is happening just as consumers in countries like China and India are developing more of a taste for chocolate. Meanwhile, the Wall Street Journal reports production in Ghana — the second-largest cocoa-growing country in the world — has taken a dive.

PEANUTS

Climate change could have you shelling out more for the peanuts on that sundae, too. U.S. farmers have seen shifts in temperatures resulting in devastating droughts that have destroyed entire crops. And most of the peanuts consumed in Canada come directly from the U.S., according to the Peanut Bureau of Canada. However they need a very stable climate to grow properly. About five years ago, widespread drought in the peanut-growing region in the southern states made the nuts and peanut butter more expensive. And the outlook isn't great either.

BANANAS

Six decades after a banana-killing fungus all but wiped out plantations across Latin America, a new strain threatens to destroy global harvests, Bloomberg reports. While the fungus has been around since the 1990s and has yet to affect top exporter Ecuador, Fresh Del Monte Produce Inc. called it a potential "big nightmare." The UN says the disease threatens supply, and Latin American growers are taking steps to limit risk.

PHOTO: ISTOCK

WORKPLACE

Canada Post wants a labour disruption, union claims

The union representing postal workers is accusing Canada Post of trying to provoke a labour dispute this summer.

That's because Canada Post filed notices of dispute on Monday with the minister of labour, requesting conciliation help in negotiations — a move which essentially starts the clock on a countdown to a strike or lockout.

"This is completely unprecedented. It is usually done when talks have broken down, and the parties are far apart," said Mike Palecek, national president of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers.

"It has never happened this early in the process," he said, noting the company hasn't even finished presenting all its demands yet. "They are acting as if they want a labour dispute."

The union estimates a legal strike or lockout date could come in early July. But Canada Post spokesman Jon Hamilton said negotiations began late last year with little progress being made on key issues.

"This brings in a third-party conciliator to work through issues," he said. "It's a productive step. It should be seen as helping both sides to sit down and get a deal."

While Hamilton refused to discuss any of the issues at the bargaining table, he said the company's goal is to get a deal that's "fair for employees, but respects the environment we are working in and the needs of our customers."

The union says Canada Post is seeking concessions on many fronts including benefits, job security and pensions, including switching new hires to a defined contribution plan from the current defined benefit plan.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, April 6, 2016

URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE

THE QUESTION

My girlfriend falls asleep during all our dates. She also ignores me when she's texting and forgets about plans we make. How do I see past all this and concentrate on her good qualities?

Hello Ellen,

I met this young lady at work, and we started hanging out. During that early phase, I felt like a priority. Fast forward six months, and I don't like where things are headed. Before, we'd meet up around 9:30 p.m., watch movies and chat until 3-4 a.m. Now, she comes over and sleeps. I mean immediately. Heavily. She also goes completely deaf when she's texting. I've talked to her about it, but she says it's not a big deal. Out of the last three movies we saw, she slept through two. But at movies with her friends, she stays awake. So now we just do dinner dates. She is also not good with prioritizing: all the plans I make are forgotten.

There are a lot of positive things in this relationship. But this problem is making it hard for me to see the good.

Regards, K.B.

Dear K.B.,

According to WebMD, narcolepsy is a neurological disorder that causes sudden, uncontrollable sleep attacks during any type of activity at any time of day. Research suggests it's genetic, and/or may be due to inadequate production of a chemical called hypocretin in the brain. There's no cure, but symptoms can be treated with drugs, from stimulants to antidepressants.

Rest assured, your girlfriend does not have narcolepsy, judging by the fact she stays awake around friends, but conks out the second she's alone with you.

Rest assured, your girlfriend does not have this condition, judging by the fact she respectfully stays awake around friends and when you take her out for dinner, but conks out the second she's alone with you. Although I am not a doctor, I feel confident in offering the following, possible diagnoses:

1) Oblivious rudeness: Ignoring you while she texts, "forgetting" the plans you make, shrugging off your concerns — these are all signs of bad manners. I agree that intimate relationships are the one place you can comfortably take each other a tiny bit for granted. But, overall, good manners are never more important than with people we are closest to in our everyday life.

2) Malicious manipulation: She made you a "priority" at the beginning of the relationship. Now she's got her hooks into you, she's taking advantage and treating you badly. She's either the world's worst girlfriend and wants a partner/chump who'll put up with it. Or she's done with you, but selfishly continuing to use you until you clue in and dump her, at which point she can act like a victim and blame you for everything.

3) Conflicted feelings: Your girlfriend truly is a good person worthy of your love. But she's mixed up. She's falling asleep because her body can't hide the truth — e.g., she's not sure she wants to be in the relationship, she fears being intimate with you when you're alone together, she cares for you but can't stand the thought of hurting you by revealing her doubts.

At the end of the day, though, it doesn't matter what the reasons are. Her behaviour, whether it's unconscious or deliberate, is preventing the possibility of a good, healthy relationship.

You sound like a considerate, well-mannered person in your letter, but I hope you won't make the mistake of thinking "good manners" requires submitting to a flagrant abuse of your time and good faith. When a relationship encounters the kinds of problems you're describing, it's perfectly polite to be honest about how you feel, and move on.

Need advice?
Email Ellen:
scene@metronews.ca

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Police transparency is key to improving sex assault outcomes

The spotlight on how this country handles sexual assault has descended on Ottawa, and it isn't pretty: Sexual assault charges have reached their lowest rate in seven years.

According to police data obtained by Metro, 39 per cent of sexual assault complaints led to charges in 2014, a year that also saw a sharp drop in complaints brought to police compared to 2013. The charge rate has never gotten higher than 50 per cent since 2007.

The data is only the latest revealed by a Metro investigation that found 2,538 sexual assaults were deemed "unfounded" by police in the past 15 years, a statistic that advocates have called shocking.

But the charge rate is particularly upsetting since this data represents only a sliver of sexual assaults committed in that city, and this country.

Post-Ghomeshi trial, that shouldn't be news to you. You've probably heard ad nauseum that only five per cent of sexual assaults are reported to police, and only 0.2 per cent end in convictions

Insp. John Maxwell, who works in Ottawa police Major Case Investigations, told my colleague Joe Lofaro, "If we close a file without a charge, then there's a good reason for it. This is what we do." Investigations have become more complicated with the rise of technology, he added.

But with all due respect to investigators, we need to know more about what constitutes a "good reason" for abandoning a complaint, especially since charge rates for non-sexual assaults in Ottawa are consistently higher — from 64 to 73 per cent since 2007.

In this light, it's galling that Ottawa Inspector John Maxwell laid the lack of charges, in part, at the feet of women.

Last week, he told Metro Ottawa that some complainants don't want to go through with laying charges, for a variety of reasons. If he was talking about five per cent of the cases, then he's indeed correct. The new data shows that, in 2014, only 33 of the 743 sexual assault reports ended without charges because complaints changed their minds. So: what about the remaining 55 per cent?

What this data shows is that police actions remain far more opaque than the courts. Where it's easy to pull up verdicts, it's far harder to track the trajectory of complaints as they make their way through police stations.

Police don't keep such data available online, and it can take days — or in Ottawa's case a series of information requests — to uncover it. But this data is key to doing better. It's not good enough to offer generalized explanations. It's time to dig into the nitty-gritty.

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Your essential daily news

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

A U.S. federal judge said Tuesday the widow of a man driving the Porsche that crashed and killed actor Paul Walker cannot prove the carmaker is responsible for the accident.

RECIPE

ROASTED SEA BASS, FENNEL & TOMATOES

Serves: 6
Prep time: 20 minutes
Cooking time: 35 minutes

Ingredients:
- 1large fennel bulb, cored and thinly sliced, about 4–5 cups sliced
- 1tbsp olive oil
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- ¼ tsp freshly ground black pepper
- ¼ tsp dried oregano
- Pinch crushed red pepper flakes
- 1tbsp olive oil
- 1large yellow onion, cut in half and thinly sliced
- 2large garlic cloves, minced
- 1tsp fennel seeds
- ½ tsp dried oregano
- ½ tsp sugar
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- ¼ tsp freshly ground black pepper
- ½ cup dry white wine
- 1can (28 oz) whole tomatoes, drained (liquid discarded) and coarsely chopped
- 2tbsp chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 1tsp lemon zest
- 6 sea bass fillets (6 oz each)
- ¼ tsp kosher salt
- ¼ tsp freshly ground black pepper
- Fennel fronds, for garnish
Lemon zest, for garnish

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 450°F. In a large bowl, toss sliced fennel with 1 tablespoon olive oil, salt, pepper, oregano and crushed red pepper flakes. Place in a 13- × 9-inch baking dish and roast for 15 minutes. Stir and continue to cook until tender, 5–8 minutes more.

2. While fennel is roasting, heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add onion and cook, stirring, 4–5 minutes until tender. Add garlic, fennel seeds, oregano, sugar, salt and pepper. Cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Increase heat to high, add wine and let it reduce for 1 minute. Stir in tomatoes, reduce heat to low, cover and simmer for 10 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in parsley and lemon zest.

3. Remove fennel from oven and lower temperature to 400°F. Pat fish dry with paper towel and season fish with salt and pepper. Place the fish over the fennel, top with tomato-onion mixture and place in oven for 10–15 minutes, until cooked through. Garnish with fennel fronds and lemon zest.

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Real world cooking

COOKBOOK

Finding a happy medium between Martha Stewart and Rachael Ray

Melita Kuburas
Metro | Life

Julie Albert and Lisa Gnat will stop at nothing to get people to pick up their book and start cooking.

And, the Toronto sisters know recommendations from foodies and celebs are a serious form of currency. Astronaut Chris Hadfield, chef Michael Smith, actor Jason Alexander and singer Jon Bon Jovi are a few of the big names whose praise appears in the intro for their new book, Lick Your Plate (Appetite by Random House).

"We'll take any angle we can to try to get to certain people who we admire or adore. We're huge Seinfeld fans, and of course Jon Bon Jovi remains my 16-year-old crush," jokes Albert, an admitted inexpert in the kitchen. She's in charge of writing and visuals in the sisters' growing food empire, which now includes three books and a website, Bite Me More.

Their playful tone has stayed the same since they self-published in 2009, but their esthetic has been "fine-tuned," moving away from kitschy towards modern graphic design, says Albert.

Ben Wiseman, who has created colour-pop covers for Time, New York Times and Newsweek magazines, illustrated chapter sections, the more than 100 food photographs mimicking his style with bright pinks, blues and yellows serving as background to the plating.

The book aims to help home cooks elevate simple dishes — without taking up too much time — and take the thinking out of daily meal planning.

"We're not Martha telling someone to make the eight-hour broth, but we're also not Rachael Ray saying put cheese on toast. There is that happy medium," says Gnat, who developed the recipes.

The sisters say they understand the importance of accessible recipes, where all the ingredients can be bought in one shop.

"We love and admire 'the foodie' and we're happy to sit down to a gourmet meal. And we are all about fresh flavours and great food. But we also live in the real world with six kids between us. We don't always have that sort of time and inclination to go on a goose chase for fig paste," says Albert.

I love how the fennel gets very sweet when you roast it. It's a super healthy dish.
Lisa Gnat

Lisa Gnat and Julie Albert
HANDOUT

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Chicken soup for the Greeks

AVGOLEMONO

Rich, tangy broth perfect for warming up on cool days

Avgolemono means 'egg lemon' in Greek. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Avgolemono is the chicken soup of Greece, and as we know, pretty much every country has its own version of a comforting chicken soup. In Greek, avgolemono means "egg lemon" — which is appropriate because the soup is built on a broth that is rich with eggs and deliciously bright and tangy with lemon juice.

While cooking the raw chicken in the simmering broth adds extra richness to the soup, you also could make the broth and simply add leftover cooked and shredded or chopped chicken. Just add about 6 cups shredded or diced cooked chicken along with the cooked rice.

When you gradually add the hot broth to the egg mixture, you are tempering the eggs. If you were to add the egg mixture to the pot all at once, even if you whisked very fast, you would end up with cooked strands of eggs punctuating the soup. In some soups, this is desirable — think egg drop soup at a Chinese restaurant — but not in this one. Adding the hot liquid in a slow steady stream to the eggs, while whisking all the while, thickens the eggs but keeps them from scrambling. Once the mixture has become thick, smooth and warm, you can whisk it into the soup and it will simply thicken the whole pot of avgolemono.

Avgolemono
Start to finish: 40 minutes
Servings: 8

Ingredients
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium yellow onion, chopped
- 8 cups (2 quarts) low-sodium chicken broth or stock
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 2 pounds), cut into very small chunks
- 2 1/2 cups cooked white rice
- 4 large eggs
- 1/2 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 cup minced fresh parsley
- 3/4 cup frozen peas, thawed
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper

Directions
1. In a large soup pot or Dutch oven over medium, heat the oil. Add the onion and saute for 5 minutes, or until slightly golden. Add the broth, then increase the heat to high and bring to a simmer.
2. Reduce the heat to medium and, keeping the broth at a simmer, add the chicken. Cook for 5 minutes, or until the chicken is mostly cooked through. Add the cooked rice and stir well. Return to a gentle simmer.
3. In a medium bowl, beat the eggs until smooth, then beat in the lemon juice. Working quickly, whisk the egg mixture while you drizzle in a ladleful of the hot broth from the pot. Drizzle in another ladleful, whisking all the while, then transfer the hot egg-lemon mixture back to the pot, whisking as you add it. Bring to a simmer over medium heat.
4. Stir in the parsley and peas, then return to a simmer. Season with salt and pepper, then serve hot.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LIQUID ASSETS

Oz is more than just Down Under

The last time I was Down Under I had fun debating with winemakers about how they were going to move past their generic "drink Australia" mantra.

They argued that their unique regions were the key to defining individual wine styles. My opinion was (is) that while the average Canadian may be able to find Oz on a map, I'd bet they couldn't put their finger on Sydney let alone South Australia, the country's most famous wine producer. As I predicted, Aussie attempts to turn geography into celebrity have met with uneven success.

The makers of Mallee Rock 2014 Shiraz Cabernet Sauvignon ($12.49-$16.99) have placed a bet on the larger southeastern Limestone Coast sub-region within South Australia. Deeply fruited, it's a barbecue-friendly red with hints of mallee (the aboriginal name for eucalyptus).

PETER ROCKWELL/METRO

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ROSE REISMAN THE SAVVY EATER

THIS WEEK: Dips for your chips

Craving chips and dip? Skip the creamy for spicy salsa.

PICK THIS

Old Dutch Restaurante Style Medium Salsa
1/4 cup

Calories 20
Fat 0g
Sodium 340mg

SKIP THIS

Marzetti Ranch Veggie Dip
1/4 cup

Calories 220
Fat 22g
Sodium 440mg

HERE'S WHY

Equivalent to as much fat as a serving of Manchu Wok's Honey Garlic Chicken

Ranch dip is a tasty and popular pick for chips, veggies, wings and more, but it's packing enough fat to be a meal unto itself. It's primarily made from full-fat sour cream, where half the fat is saturated. Salsa is a way lighter pick — with a tomato base instead of sour cream, it's mainly veggies and spices. You'll get a ton of taste with no fat and 11 times fewer calories.

TASTE TEST

Is civet cat coffee worth the price?

Ariel Teplitsky
Torstar News Service

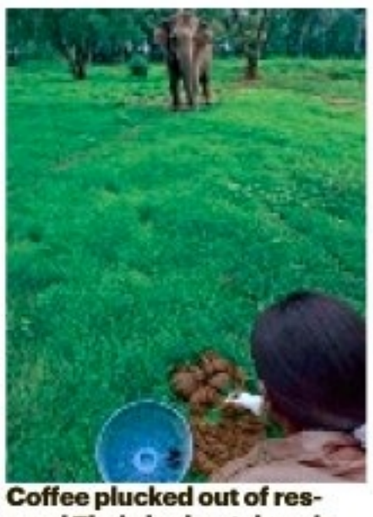
You might have heard that coffee beans extracted from the droppings of a civet cat make the world's most expensive brew, but that is no longer true.

Has the hype subsided, you might reasonably ask? Has the planet come to its senses and finally realized that no cuppa joe is worth paying double digits for, whether or not its beans passed through the digestive tract of a tropical forest creature?

Nope, civet poop coffee is still apparently popular, and still outrageously expensive. It's just that now you can get an even more rare and exotic coffee, which has been plucked from the dung of rescued Thai elephants instead of civet cats. It sells for an astounding $66 (U.S.) for 35 grams of roasted beans, enough to brew "approximately five espresso size cups." That is, if you are among the fortunate few who pay up each year before the limited supply sells out.

A decent cup of civet isn't too much cheaper, mind you.

Doi Chaang, the part-Canadian, part-Thai "beyond fair trade" coffee company, sells beans, roasted in Vancouver, harvested from wild, cage-free civets that feast once a year on fresh ripe coffee cherries. Doi Chaang's product is distinct from farms that utilize trapped, mistreated animals, which have tarnished the industry in recent years, and the beans retail for the bargain price of $55 Canadian for 50 grams. You want a pound of the stuff? You're looking at $500.



Coffee plucked out of rescued Thai elephant dung is now the priciest java in the world. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Doi Chaang sent a batch for our taste panel to try.

I have never so anxiously brewed a cup of coffee. What if I do it wrong? What if the grind is too fine? What if my measurements are off?

I confirm the proper proportions on multiple blogs, then meticulously hand-grind enough gourmet beans to brew a large French press, adding a little extra — because the one complaint you really don't want to hear about a $50 pot of coffee is that it's too weak.

Ironically, considering where it comes from, this coffee smells amazing — possibly better than any I've tried before.

From the moment I cut open the vacuum-sealed pouch, to the grinding, to the steeping process, there's a smooth aroma with an unmistakable, almost tropical earthiness, like coffee brewed with moss.

And the taste? Again, it's very good, with a bit of that moss on the tongue.

It's rich yet gentle enough to be gulped down without cream or sugar. At the same time, however, it's not quite distinct or delicious enough to warrant the astonishing price tag.

A few members of our taste panel outright disliked the stuff. They probably even made the obvious suggestion that it tastes like, well, you know.

Coffee preferences are highly personal. If coffee pinched out of the business end of a shy, fruit-eating mammal produced near-unanimous approval, they would sell it at Starbucks.

Would I eat it again? When I win the Powerball, this will be my go-to brew.

JOHANNA SCHNELLER
WHAT I'M WATCHING

Walking a fine feminist line

THE SHOW: The Fall, Season 1, Episode 3 (Netflix)
THE MOMENT: The media lesson

Detective Superintendent Stella Gibson (Gillian Anderson) has come from London to help Belfast police catch a serial killer of young women. (We know the murderer is Paul Spector, a father played by 50 Shades of Grey hunk Jamie Dornan, but the cops don't.) Soft on the surface — whispery voice, silk blouses, lace bras — but cold steel underneath, Stella mesmerizes men. Including Paul.

In a meeting, she instructs her force about speaking to the press.

"The media lives to divide women into virgins and vamps, angels or whores," she says. "Let's not encourage them."

Her boss Jim (John Lynch) calls her into the hall. (They were lovers, and he's still smitten.) He reprimands her for sleeping with another officer. "You didn't think to ask if he was married?" Jim sputters.

He didn't think to tell me," Stella answers serenely. Jim glares at her.

Remaining serene, she says, "Man f*cks woman, that's okay. Woman f*cks man — that's not comfortable for you, is it?

This series walks a fascinating knife-edge. On one side, it's packed with feminist rhetoric, as above. On the other, it lovingly shows women being terrorized, tortured, murdered and turned into dolls (Paul bathes and poses his victims' corpses).

It creates a high-end peep show, and then scolds us and implicates us for peeping. It's hugely hypocritical. Yet in its very hypocrisy, it calls more attention to, and makes you think more about, how popular entertainment uses women than any other show. You mustn't look, but you mustn't look away.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

'Tis the season for love

You wouldn't know it from the salt stains on your shoes, but spring has sprung and love is in the air. Here are some of the star sweethearts making headlines, along with the Chavril tune that best sums up each union. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Taylor Swift & Calvin Harris

This pair turned the iHeartRadio awards into a love-in, sharing embraces after each of their wins. Accepting an award, Swift called Harris the "most amazing person to come home to."

RELATIONSHIP IN A CHAVRIL SONG: Avril Lavigne, Girlfriend

Avril Lavigne & Chad Kroeger

On Junos weekend, this inseparable separated duo snuggled on Instagram and flirted in interviews. They maintain they're just supporting each other.

RELATIONSHIP IN A CHAVRIL SONG: Avril Lavigne, Keep Holding On

Kit Harington & Rose Leslie

The Game of Thrones crowd is going wildling with the news that doomed lovers Jon Snow and Ygritte have continued their romance off-screen.

RELATIONSHIP IN A CHAVRIL SONG: Nickelback, When We Stand Together

Vladimir Putin & Wendi Deng

Lovebirds who have the world whispering: The rumoured relationship between the Russian leader and ex-wife of Rupert Murdoch is said to be serious.

RELATIONSHIP IN A CHAVRIL SONG: Nickelback, Burn it to the Ground

GOSSIP

Amy Schumer calls out Glamour mag over sizing

Irene Kuan
Metro Canada

Amy Schumer makes it clear she has nothing against being 'plus-size', but slams Glamour Magazine for including her in their "Chic at Every Size" issue without asking for her first.

The comedic actress posted on Instagram a closeup of the magazine, which lists celebs Melissa McCarthy, Adele, Ashley Graham and herself, along with this caption:

"Plus size is considered size 16 in America. I go between a size 6 and 8. @glamourmag put me in their plus size only issue without asking or letting me know and it doesn't feel right".... and asking her followers what their thoughts are about her inclusion in the issue.

The post has so far received more than 50,000 likes and 4,200 comments, with many of her fans equally irked by the magazine labelling her plus size.

Glamour Magazine, which honoured Schumer with their Trailblazer award at the 2015 Glamour Awards, and where the actress gave a hilarious acceptance speech about not apologizing for who she is, issued this statement: "First off, we love Amy, and our readers do too — which is why we featured her on the cover of Glamour last year."

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PETER ROCKWELL/METRO

metro DRIVE

Businessman Miles Nadal buys Fiat used by Pope for $300,000

Trailhawk is not just a looker

REVIEW

Rugged style backed up by actual rugged capabilities

Mike Goetz
For Metro Canada

Jeep is one of the fastest rising automotive brands here in North America, and even more so in Europe.

And the Jeeps that are selling in numbers are not the ones you see on mountain goat paths, they're the ones you see in the parking lots at Costco and Ikea.

But while parent company Fiat Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) obviously knows how to leverage and market Jeep's high profile and iconic look to a broader and less adventurous audience, you have to also give them credit for continuing to make a select number of Jeeps in the original, rough and ready mode.

In addition to the Wrangler, proficient Jeep off-roaders can be found throughout the line-up — a prime example is our test subject this week, the Cherokee Trailhawk. "Normal" 4X4 Cherokees are already quite off-road capable, owing to a sophisticated driver-selectable five-mode all-terrain system (Auto, Snow, Sport, Sand/Mud, and Rock). Trailhawk models add locking rear differential, increased approach and departure angles and ground clearance, skid plates, and 17-inch all-terrain tires.

The amazing thing about modern rock climbers like Trailhawk is that they don't punish you when you're not rock climbing. Other that a bit more tire noise, the Cherokee Trailhawk was a model of civility on the streets and the highways.

FCA's high-tech, nine-speed automatic transmission had some teething problems, but they've sorted them; it shifts smoothly and gives the Cherokee a relaxed gate on the highway.

Our tester had the optional 3.2-litre V6, which is refined and powerful, and now features automatic stop-start to save a bit more fuel. A Trailhawk 4X4 model with this engine is not your fuel efficiency choice in the compact crossover segment — its combined city/highway rating is 10.8 L/100 km.

The interior is well executed and appointed, capped off by FCA's new wiz-bang 8.4-inch Uconnect touchscreen. Always one of the more intuitive and easy-to-use systems, it now features a "Drop and Drag" feature that allows you to locate your preferred app icons on the screen, Siri Eyes Free, and Do-Not-Disturb, which automatically routes phone calls and texts direct to voice mail. Our fully-loaded tester just nudged over the $40,000 mark. A lot of money for a compact based SUV, but it's dense with technology and capability, and you can certainly get a Trailhawk for less.

While the interior feels spacious, the cargo area is a bit wanting. The only other caveat would be the front end styling, which is polarizing. To some it's what makes this a sleek Jeep, to others it's an angry snout.

THE CHECKLIST | 2016 JEEP CHEROKEE TRAILHAWK

THE BASICS

- **Type.** Five-door, five-passenger, 4WD, compact SUV
- **Power.** 184-hp 2.4-litre I4, 271-hp 3.2-litre V6
- **Transmission.** Nine-speed automatic
- **Price.** Base $34,695 (plus destination)

COOL FEATURES

- AWD features several terrain modes, and also automatically disconnects rear axle, when AWD not needed, to increase fuel efficiency.
- You can drop and drag apps via their corresponding icons, to the touch screen, to customize the screen.
- Full suite of safety systems available.

CHEROKEE PHOTOS MIKE GOETZ/FOR METRO; OTHERS HANDOUT

POINTS

- Named Four Wheeler Magazine's 2015 Four Wheeler of the Year.
- Best in class trailer tow capability of 2,041 kg.
- Based on FCA's "Compact Platform," which also underpins Dodge Dart and Chrysler 200.

MARKET POSITION

- Cherokee slots between smaller Renegade and larger Grand Cherokee in Jeep's line-up.
- Best-selling Jeep nameplate in Canada, and 15th overall best selling vehicle in the country.

THE COMPETITION

Ford Escape AWD
Base price: $26,699

Toyota RAV4 AWD
Base price: $27,505

Nissan Rogue AWD
Base price: $26,948

KANSAS CITY ROYALS

Ford unveils a Most Valuable Pickup

To mark the Kansas City Royals' World Series victory, Ford has taken the wraps off a special-edition pickup that will be built in Kansas City and strictly limited to 300 examples.

The Ford F-150 MVP is available in two exterior paint finishes — Oxford White or Blue Flame — and the motivation behind its creation came from a local baseball fan, Marc Lassalle, who wanted the company to recognize his favourite team's achievement.

This is only the second time in the Royals' history that it has won the championship. The first time was in 1985, and on that occasion Ford — which has a huge manufacturing presence in the city — built a commemorative Ranger.

"Like our manufacturing team members at the Kansas City Assembly Plant, the Kansas City Royals are a great example of what terrific teamwork can accomplish," said Gary Johnson, Ford's vice-president for North America manufacturing.

This connection is also why Bret Saberhagen (who played on the1985 team) and current Kansas City Royals star Salvador Pérez were chosen to introduce the new truck to the public.

As well as a special paint finish, the MVP stands out from other F-150s thanks to unique badging, stainless steel rocker panels with a polished finish and a spray-in bedliner. The truck is based on the XLT model with a chrome package, so as well as boasting a six-speed transmission with settings for towing and hauling and for better performance when heading off road, it also gets the added esthetics of chrome-effect grille, fenders and door handles.

The mid-level specifications mean that while it is a premium vehicle in terms of numbers, it will be one that won't come with a financial premium for the average baseball fan wanting a vehicular memento of his or her team's achievements.

This connection with the fans is also why potential customers will have to travel to Kansas City to get one — it is being sold exclusively via the city's Ford dealers.

AFP

The 2016 Ford F-150 MVP Edition. FORD MOTOR COMPANY

Supercars, super practical car awarded

The Ferrari 488 GTB (top left), McLaren 570S (top right) and Kia Optima (above) were all honoured by the Red Dot Jury. CONTRIBUTED

RED DOT JURY

'Best of the Best' includes the humble Kia that could

Two supercars and a super-practical sedan have all been given best-of-the-best design status by the Red Dot jury.

Which is better, a Ferrari 488 GTB or a McLaren 570S? It turns out that from a design perspective, even the jury of experts that decide the annual Red Dot awards — and which for the first time included legendary automotive designer Chris Bangle on its panel — can't decide either.

Both supercars have been given top honours, a "Best of the Best" award in the product design category.

Ferrari tends to scoop up a Red Dot award every time it launches a new car, but for McLaren, which has only been in business since 2010, it's a huge achievement.

"The 570S Coupe has enjoyed a fantastic reception since launching last year, and to be recognized by Red Dot with a 'Best of the Best' title is a real honour," said the car's chief designer, Rob Melville.

> **Our international design team has every cause to be exceptionally proud of these most recent awards.**
>
> Peter Schreyer, president and chief designer of Kia Motors Corporation and Hyundai Motor Group

However, for those that believe innovative or desirable automotive esthetics are still the domain of dream car companies, the two mid-engine turbocharged V8 320 km/h+ supercars have this year been joined in the best of the best category by the Kia Optima.

Unlike the other winners, this is a practical, comfortable and affordable four-door sedan and crucially, one developed by a design team based in the U.S., Korea and Germany to ensure visual appeal.

"Our international design team has every cause to be exceptionally proud of these most recent awards," said Peter Schreyer, president and chief designer of Kia Motors Corporation and Hyundai Motor Group.

In all, 5,200 items, from smart thermostats and stylish chairs to designer sunglasses and luxury pens, were entered for consideration in the product design category for this year's Red Dot Design Awards.

Of that number this year's 41-strong jury gave out the top honour to just 79 entries in total. The "standard" Red Dot award was won by 1304 products and a further 107 gained an "honourable mention."

The full list of Red Dot winners across all 21 categories — including for vehicles — will be announced in Essen, Germany, at the Red Dot Gala and Awards ceremony on July 4. AFP

SMART CARS

Is a mini breathalyzer the key to stopping drunk driving?

Honda and Hitachi have developed a miniature prototype breathalyzer that can be integrated into a smart-car key.

There are already a number of high-tech devices either on the market or in development focused on helping drivers know their alcoholic limits.

The most high-profile is the DADSS, a system being developed by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that could soon become standard in-cabin equipment on new cars sold in North America.

However, what sets Honda's portable alcohol detection device apart from the others is that it is mobile — it can be used anywhere and at any time as a breathalyzer. This mobility means, according to its makers, that a user doesn't have to get into his or her car to perform a breath test.

This minimizes any temptation to drive.

Likewise, the fact that it's integrated into the car key means that three seconds after providing a breath sample, if too much alcohol is detected, the key will no longer open or start the car.

Honda and Hitachi are working on a mini-breathalyzer that would be integrated into car keys. ISTOCK

In order to build a breathalyzer compact enough to fit into a key not much larger and thicker than a credit card, Hitachi had to develop a sensor that was tiny (just five millimetres in area), yet good enough to detect as little as 0.015mg/l of ethanol concentration in a person's breath.

It achieves its readings by also measuring exhaled hydrogen and metabolized acetaldehyde and by using an algorithm to make a calculation based on the concentration of the three substances.

It is currently calibrated in accordance with Japan's drunk driving laws, but the intention is to tune the smart key for different markets and laws.

On April 12, the companies will be officially presenting the prototype and its research at the SAE World Congress in Detroit. AFP

POTENTIAL

Though just a prototype at the moment, Honda and Hitachi want to commercialize the device and the technology behind it quickly, amd to do so, it will have to go through rigorous testing in terms of its accuracy.

Before getting behind the handlebars of a new motorcycle, consider what kind of riding you plan to do. ISTOCK

Motorcycle trends to kickstart spring

WE ASKED THE EXPERTS

Advice for first-time buyers and bikers getting back in saddle

Eoin Weldon

Spring is here, so pull that old sheet off your garage-housed motorcycle, dust the bike off and prepare for the action-packed months ahead in Winnipeg and beyond.

Or perhaps you're eyeing a motorcycle for the first time and are curious about current trends and styles.

"As far as new trends for spring go, we are seeing a lot of buyers in the sport bike class, especially in that 300cc to 500cc range," says Adrian Labarre, sales manager at the Honda motorcycle dealership at Winnipeg Sports and Leisure. "We are also seeing a lot of people who haven't biked for years that are getting back into it."

Whether you're a first-time buyer or returning to biking after a hiatus, before you part with your hard-earned money try to envisage how much you will use the motorcycle and what kind of journeys you will be taking.

"Try to predict how much you will use it," says Labarre. "How you are going to use it. Will you just be in the city? Or will you be doing a lot of highway driving? If so, will you be touring?"

These are vital questions before getting behind the handlebars of your new machine. And remember, the bike you choose should match how much you intend to use it, so chat with the dealership before you purchase.

After you've picked out your motorcycle but before you head out for that first ride, take that safety course.

"I recommend everyone take the course," says Labarre. "Safety Services does a great job of educating people on bikes. You just can't get a license anymore and drive a motorcycle. You have to take a course through Safety Services."

Labarre also has one final piece of advice to beginners and first-time buyers. "With beginners, please stay within your ability and don't get something too big or fast right out of the gate. It's important to feel comfortable out there."

Not for one second should you forget just how dangerous a motorcycle can be. A quick look at road accident statistics across the globe will confirm this.

Once all safety-related concerns have been firmly put to bed and you have your license, it's time to enjoy the freedom of your bike.

GETTING YOUR RIDE CHARGED UP

Jacob Black, senior editor at autoTRADER.ca, recommends inspecting battery terminals before charging or reinstalling.

Hopefully you added fuel stabilizer in the fall, but regardless new gas should be added.

Check brake fluid, filters, oil and coolant to confirm that there hasn't been any contamination or leakage.

Next, ensure that clutch and brake cables are functioning properly.

Tires should be carefully inspected for cracks, flat spots or signs of excessive wear. Recommended air pressure can be found on the sidewall and topped up if required.

The drivetrain of your bike may vary (chain, shaft or belt), but the components should be inspected and maintained.

NEWS CANADA

SCENIC ROUTES

Touring in and around Winnipeg

Winnipeg motorcycling enthusiast Myles O'Reilly echoes the sentiments of Neil Young's chrome and steel ode, Unknown Legend from the Harvest Moon album; in particular the face forward whoosh into the future.

"Roar of the engine, wind in my face, bugs in my beard – what's not to love," says O'Reilly, the founder of Manitoba by Motorcycle, an organization that combines his twin passions for touring and the promotion of tourism in his home province. O'Reilly has been riding for seven years and offers up four scenic routes around the Gateway to the West.

Lockport - Selkirk — Birds Hill Park

"This is a great way to spend a summer evening after a long day of work," O'Reilly said. Take Main S North out of the city, ride along River Road to Lockport and cross the bridge on Hwy. 44. Get onto Henderson Highway North. This quiet road will take you into Selkirk, the back way. Ride (north) along the water, passing the floatplanes. Ride until the "Bridge to Nowhere" then cross it east to Hwy. 59 South, to Birds Hill Park.

North East Manitoba — The Beach Run

"My wife's family used to spend every summer at a cottage in Victoria Beach, so rolling through is a trip down memory lane," O'Reilly said. "I like to ride through Old Selkirk to get to Hwy. 59 for better scenery." Take 59 North and you'll see lots of cottage country and beaches along the way, but the most popular stop is Grand Beach. "Stop at Lanky's for a foot-long dog and stroll along the beach." Roll out to Hwy. 59 North to Hwy. 11. Take Hwy. 11 East all along the Winnipeg River until Highway 44. "Take 44 to Bausejour, stop for ice cream, then roll on home."

Southern Scoot for a Scoop

"Greasy spoon food and cold ice cream is a great summer treat, plus southern Manitoba is pretty scenic." Go south on Hwy. 3 to Carmen. In Carmen proper, head up to Highway #2. "There is another little food stop at the corner (in Elm Creek) with some great burgers. The place is busy, so be prepared to wait a bit because it's totally worth it." Then roll Highway #2 back home.

Birds Hill Park. CONTRIBUTED

Cannonball 500 — North West Manitoba

This ride goes through The Narrows and through Riding Mountain National Park. How could you not love that? Hwy 6. North West, through St. Laurent, on through Eriksdale up to Hwy 68. Take 68 West through The Narrows to St. Rose du Lac where it switches to Hwy 5. This is a very cool two-lane blacktop route with great scenery. Hwy. 5 to Hwy. 10, south on 10. This will take you through Riding Mountain National Park. Slow your roll and enjoy Mother Nature. Stop at any spot in Clear Lake for a bite to eat and walk along the boardwalk. "A killer way to spend an afternoon."

WILL MCGUIRK

Riding Mountain National Park. CONTRIBUTED

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The festival shines a comedy light on Winnipeg's storied neighbourhoods. We have selected comics, actors and storytellers to highlight their own neighbourhoods, and take us on a hilarious tour of the city without leaving your seat. Hosted by Bill Richardson.

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Gas Station Arts Centre | 10:30 pm | Tickets: $15

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MUSIC BY: DJ Hunnicutt

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Number of female bikers rising

JOINING THE CLUB

Manitoba rider among ranks of women into motorcycles

Eoin Weldon

Kim Robinson owns 13 bikes with her husband but says she doesn't have a favourite. CONTRIBUTED

The spring sun brings with it a swarm of adventure-starved bikers ready to hit the road after a winter of hibernation. Count Kim Robinson among that group. Robinson, the secretary of the Antique Motorcycle Club of Manitoba, adores biking and its rich culture for a variety of reasons.

"I love the personal expression and the freedom you feel being on the road. Riding, it sort of takes my mind off any concerns I may have and allows me to relax in a different way. It's really empowering," she says.

Amid all these liberating feelings Robinson is still acutely aware of those paramount safety measures. Yes, motorcycles are a release and joy but their danger can't be overlooked or taken lightly. "When you're out there enjoying it, ensure that you still have that focus," she cautions.

Robinson is part of a rising number of Canadian women substituting the steering wheel for the handlebars and soaking up the scenery of this vast land from a perfect and mobile vantage point. The old stereotype of bearded, leather-clad and trouble-some bikers is fading fast as more and more people jump into the saddle. Robinson, in particular, believes the female contingent on the roads is growing at an encouraging rate.

"I see more women riding every year. I see more ladies out there and taking the safety courses. They ride on their own or with their husbands for passengers. Lady bikers are definitely on the rise."

Along with her husband, Robinson owns a staggering 13 bikes so she definitely has some tricky decisions to make before leaving the garage for a ride. "I have a Harley Davidson Road King, a Triumph Tiger and a Triumph Thruxton."

But she does not have a favourite. "They are all different styles of motorcycle and I love each and every one of them."

As far as clubs in Winnipeg for budding female riders to join, choices are aplenty. There is, of course, Robinson's own club, the Antique Motorcycle Club of Manitoba, but the list goes on.

"You can join another antique club, the Harley Davidson club, the Winnipeg Harley Riders, the Northern Stars of Manitoba and the Gaslight Harley Davidson club in Morgan," she adds. "There are a number of clubs around the area and most of them are very happy to have ladies in their membership."

ROAD READY

Clean up your act

Even if your bike has been under a custom cover in a secure location, chances are good that it could still use a bath. Thoroughly washing your ride will not only remove dirt and dust that has accumulated, it also allows for thorough inspection. Unwanted animal or insect nests can appear over the winter and the earlier you detect leaks or early signs of wear and tear the better.

Annual checkup

The start of the season is a great time to perform an annual assessment. Review your insurance and registration records to confirm they are current and examine your maintenance files to remind you what may need to be replaced or checked for the upcoming season. It is also a good time to inspect your riding gear for wear. A little patience and preparation will go a long way to ensuring your own safety and your ride's longevity for years to come.

NEWS CANADA

metro SPORTS

The NFL has picked Twitter to stream 10 Thursday night games free worldwide this coming season

Jays starter Aaron Sanchez allowed just one earned run and had eight strikeouts in seven innings, but had to settle for a no-decision. BRIAN BLANCO/GETTY IMAGES

Jays stung by new rule in Tampa Bay

MLB

Rays let off hook as two late runs overturned due to Bautista slide

TUESDAY At Tampa Bay

3	2
RAYS	BLUE JAYS

Baseball's new rule on breaking up double plays gave Logan Forsythe and the Tampa Bay Rays a disputed 3-2 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Tuesday night.

With the bases loaded and one out in the ninth inning, Toronto's Edwin Encarnacion hit a grounder to third base. After taking a throw from Evan Longoria for the force at second, Forsythe made an errant relay to first that appeared to allow the go-ahead run to score for the Jays.

Rays manager Kevin Cash asked for a review, claiming Jose Bautista violated the new "Chase Utley Rule" governing slides on potential double plays.

Replay umpires in New York ruled that Bautista did indeed slide inside the bag to illegally hinder Forsythe. The call was changed to a game-ending double play that preserved Tampa Bay's victory.

"I didn't think it was illegal to make contact, especially when it's something so subtle and soft," Bautista said.

"Player safety should be a big concern, I just don't see how my play was unsafe."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **"It's really an embarrassment.... That's good baseball, that's been baseball forever.**
>
> Jays manager John Gibbons

NHL

Islanders clinch playoffs with win in D.C.

John Tavares scored his 31st of the season in Tuesday night's game in Washington. ALEX BRANDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thomas Hickey scored 2:13 into overtime as the New York Islanders rallied from two goals down in the third period to beat the Capitals 4-3 on Tuesday night to clinch a playoff berth.

Hickey returned to the game after being cut by a skate and beat Braden Holtby to complete the comeback. Holtby allowed four goals on 27 shots and lost in his first attempt to tie Martin Brodeur's single-season wins record.

John Tavares, Kyle Okposo and Anders Lee also scored for New York, which got a 29-save performance from Christopher Gibson in his first career NHL start.

Alex Ovechkin scored his league-leading 46th and 47th goals of the season, and T.J. Oshie also scored for Presidents' Trophy-winning Washington, which has three games remaining for Holtby to attempt to tie or break Brodeur's record.

Ovechkin opened the scoring on the Capitals' second shot on goal against Gibson.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WORLD SERIES REMATCH

Mets lay hammer down on Royals

TUESDAY In Kansas City

2	0
METS	ROYALS

New York Mets right-hander Noah Syndergaard was amused when Kauffman Stadium's speakers played "American Woman" as he trotted out to the mound for the first inning.

The standing-room only crowd of 39,782 fans in Kansas City drowned out the music with its boos.

The long-haired Syndergaard silenced the fans with six dominant innings, Neil Walker hit his first homer with the Mets and New York beat Kansas City 2-0 Tuesday after the Royals were given their 2015 World Series rings.

Syndergaard (1-0) was the only pitcher to beat the Royals in the World Series last year, winning Game 3 after intentionally throwing his first pitch above Alcides Escobar's head.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AHL

Jets prospects can't push Moose to win

It was the pro debut of two blue-chip Winnipeg Jets prospects Tuesday night at MTS Centre, but the Manitoba Moose fell back into a tie for last place in the AHL with a 4-2 loss to the Milwaukee Admirals.

Brendan Lemieux — acquired as part of the blockbuster multi-player trade with the Buffalo Sabres last February — and Jets 2015 second-round draft pick Jansen Harkins played their first pro games for Manitoba, with Harkins tallying an assist on Brandon Denham's first AHL goal. Dan DeSalvo notched his fourth of the season in his 12th game since joining the Moose.

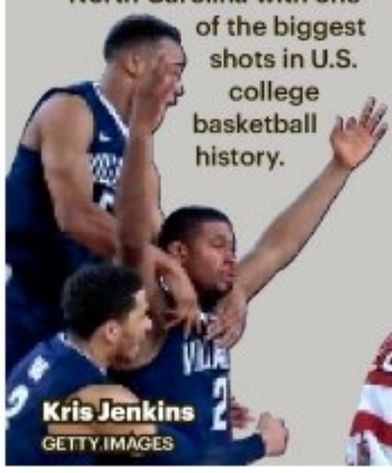
Connor Hellebuyck made 24 saves, dropping his record to 11-15-1 on the season, while the Moose fall to 23-39-4-5 on the year and back into the AHL cellar along with the Iowa Wild.

Adam Payerl, Pontus Aberg, and Max Gortz scored for Milwaukee, with Kevin Fiala adding an empty-netter in the final minute.

The Moose host Milwaukee again Wednesday before welcoming Rockford for a pair over the weekend. They'll wrap up their schedule with games in Texas against the Rampage and the Stars. DARRIN BAUMING/FOR METRO

LATE MONDAY

> **"I believe every shot's going in.**
>
> Kris Jenkins whose buzzer-beating three pointer gave Villanova a 77-74 national championship victory over North Carolina with one of the biggest shots in U.S. college basketball history.

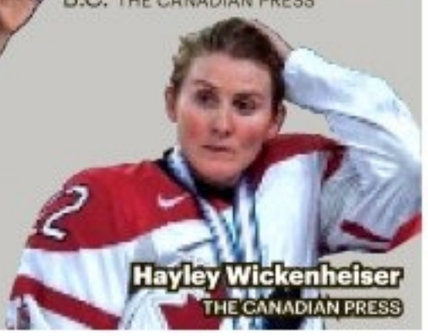


Kris Jenkins GETTY IMAGES

Canada bested by U.S. for women's world hockey title

Alex Carpenter scored the winner as the United States beat Canada 1-0 in overtime on Monday to win the women's world hockey championship.

Carpenter banged home a rebound at 12:30 of the extra period to silence the sold-out crowd in Kamloops, B.C. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Hayley Wickenheiser THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spieth sets sights on Masters repeat

GOLF

Texan was a wire-to-wire winner last year at Augusta

Packing for a three-week road trip reminded Jordan Spieth that winning the Masters wasn't as easy as he made it look.

Driving down Magnolia Lane made it all seem possible again.

Among the clothes he packed was the green jacket that had been hanging in his closet at home in Dallas for much of the year. Only the current Masters champion is allowed to take it with him from Augusta National.

"I was like, 'Wow, this is actually ... there's a possibility that I don't have this back at my house anymore' when I was leaving home," Spieth said Tuesday. "It kind of fired me up a little."

Spieth last year joined the short list of wire-to-wire winners at the Masters, setting the 36-hole record, tying the 72-hole record and never letting anyone get within three shots of him after the opening round. It was the first step in a year that saw him win the U.S. Open and make a spirited bid for the Grand Slam.

Jordan Spieth tees off during a practice round at Augusta National on Tuesday. CHARLIE RIEDEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No one is overlooking the defending champion, not when he started the year with an eight-shot win and stayed at No. 1 in the world until two weeks ago. Still, he hasn't been in serious contention in more than two months.

A year ago, Spieth had a victory and two runner-up finishes when he arrived at Augusta National. He knew his game was sharp, and he knew he could play Augusta National from having played in the final group as a Masters rookie the previous year.

What inspires him now are the memories.

"We've already done it," he said. "It's not like I'm chasing my first major. We have two major championships now. So we feel like there's an advantage if we can get into contention against those who are searching for their first."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BACK-TO-BACK

Jack Nicklaus (1965-66), Nick Faldo (1989-90) and Tiger Woods (2001-02) are the only players to win back-to-back at the Masters.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Suarez scores pair in Barcelona win

Luis Suarez scored two second-half goals to lead Barcelona to a 2-1 comeback victory over 10-man Atletico Madrid in the first leg of their Champions League quarter-final on Tuesday.

Fernando Torres opened the scoring in the 25th minute, but quickly went from hero to villain for Atletico when two reckless tackles saw him sent off in the 35th.

Atletico resisted the defending champion's push for an equalizer until Suarez finally levelled with an opportunistic goal in the 63rd.

Suarez then put Barcelona ahead in the 74th when he buried Dani Alves' cross past goalkeeper Jan Oblak with a header. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

QUARTER-FINAL 1st leg

2	1
BARCA	ATLETICO

IN BRIEF

Italy coach's trial begins with Euros looming

A prosecutor requested a suspended six-month match-fixing sentence for current Italy coach and future Chelsea manager Antonio Conte on Tuesday.

Conte is accused of sports fraud in 2010-11 when he was coach of Siena. The match under investigation is Siena's 1-0 win at Albinoleffe in May 2011.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada names coaching staff for hockey worlds

Carolina Hurricanes head coach Bill Peters will lead Canada's coaching staff at the 2016 men's world hockey championship.

Peters will be joined by Ottawa Senators head coach Dave Cameron, former Minnesota Wild head coach Mike Yeo, and Hockey Canada's Misha Donskov, who will support as assistant coaches. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE Beans & Greens Soup

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

A well-stocked pantry is the back bone of the easy weeknight dinner and this stoup (not quite a soup, not quite a stew).

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- Glug of olive oil
- 2 medium onions, diced
- 3 clove garlic, minced
- 1 to 2 tablespoons fresh rosemary and thyme, chopped fine
- 4 cups stock, vegetable or chicken
- 1 14 ounce can of cannelini beans
- 1 28 ounce can of chick peas
- approximately 6 cups fresh spinach, wash and stems pinched off
- salt and pepper to taste
- 4 pieces baguette cut an inch thick
- 1/4 - 1/3 cup grated parmesan

Directions

1. Saute onions and garlic in olive oil until quite soft and beginning to turn golden. Add herbs.

2. Add the beans. Use a potato masher to crush about half of them. Add the stock and stir. Allow to simmer for 10 or 15 minutes

3. Fire up the broiler and place the baquette on a cookie sheet. Sprinkle grated cheese on each piece and place under the heat for a couple minutes.

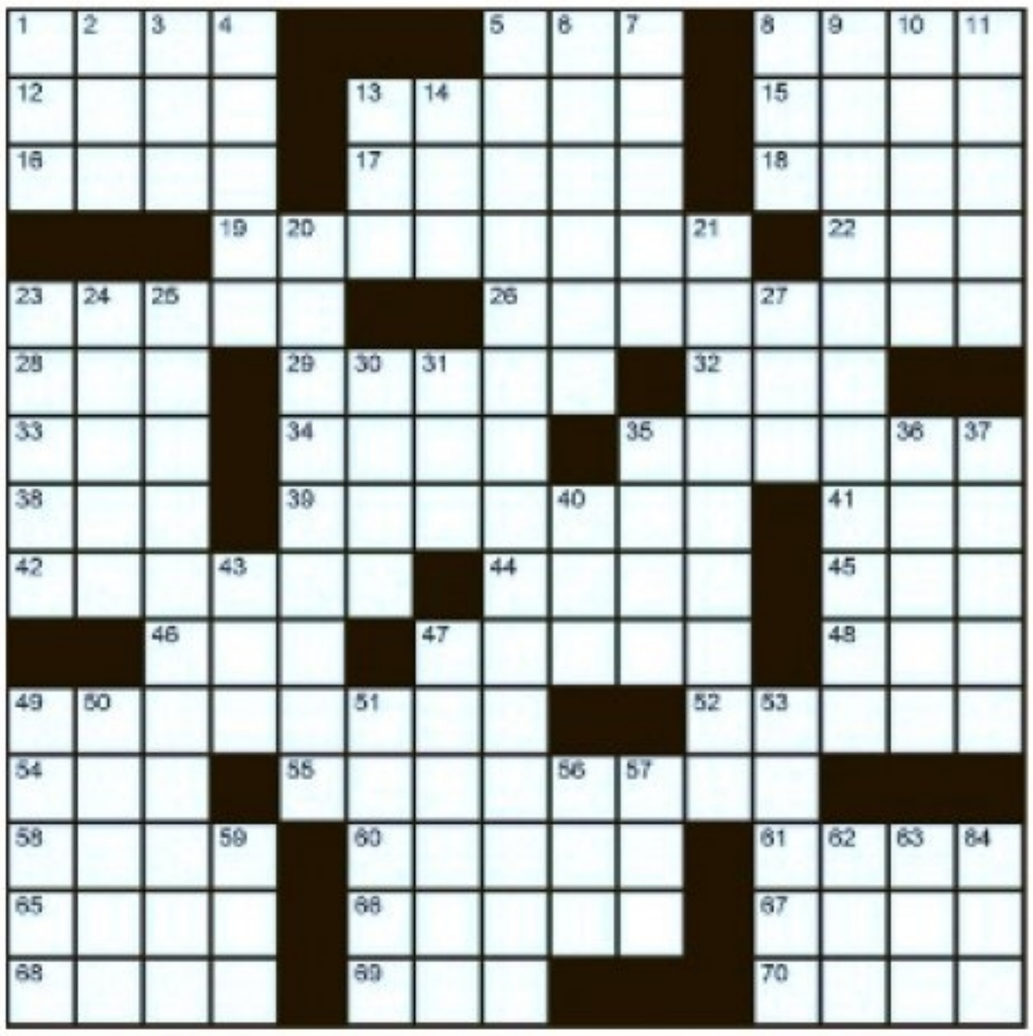
4. While the cheese is melting, throw the spinach in the soup and stir so it all gets covered by soup and wilts. Taste before adding salt and pepper.

4. Pull the crostini out of the oven. Ladle soup into a bowl and top with the cheesy bread.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Pronged utensil
5. Can
8. "The Bridge on the River _" (1957)
12. Missing from mil. roll call
13. _ _ chisel (Sculpts)
15. The bulk
16. Against
17. Kind of acid
18. _ sauce
19. Toronto-born actress Sheila
22. Money amt.
23. _-_ books (DIYer's reads)
26. City formerly called Constantinople
28. 'Twenti' tail
29. Hasn't a _ _ stand on (Doesn't have clout)
32. Bucharest money
33. Sundial number
34. Showroom model, commonly
35. "Star Trek: The Next Generation" character, Lieutenant Commander _ La Forge
38. Letters-in-a-row
39. Donning
41. Hair accessory
42. Canadian actress Ms. Grimes
44. Russian news agency, _-TASS
45. "May _ _ of service?" (Boutique query)
46. Tit-for-_
47. Carb-lover's craving
48. _ Lk (Computer keyboard key)
49. Appreciative
52. Actor, Taye _
54. Rapa _ (Easter Island)
55. Answer
58. "_-_-Di..." (Beatles song title bit)
60. "_ _ Nothing" by Whitney Houston
61. "Revolutionary _" (2008)
65. Abound
66. Goat-antelope of Japan
67. Thus
68. Completes
69. "Tut-tut!"
70. Legendary star

DOWN
1. Air travel overseer [acronym]
2. Have
3. Waste
4. Gustav _ (The Kiss painter)
5. 'Ovayok' in Nunavut or 'Coal River Springs' in the Yukon: 2 wds.
6. "Truthfully?": 3 wds.
7. Night: German
8. Hwy. speed units
9. Like a rustic cabin's stove
10. Shakespeare play, _ _ Like It
11. Kelly Clarkson's "Mr. Know _ _"
13. Vancouver sch.
14. "_ _ guy walks into..." (Classic joke intro)
20. North Atlantic fishing show on Discovery Channel, "_ _ Cowboys"
21. Bill and Hillary Clinton in '73 upon finishing studies as law students: 2 wds.
23. Charles and William, but not Andrew and Harry
24. _ Mountains (Range in Quebec)
25. Like Saskatchewan's provincial animal which is a deer
27. Modern
30. Large shoe-width size
31. ABC's early li'l daytime show
35. Irritating insect
36. Do computer cleaning
37. Articles
40. TGIF part
43. Ms. Portman, to pals
47. Presses, as an elevator button
49. $1,000: letter + wd.
50. Mr. Studdard
51. "1234" Canadian songstress
53. "Able was _ _ _ saw Elba." (Palindrome)
56. Egg-related prefix
57. Fresh
59. Pre-lunch hrs.
62. Grampus
63. Toronto museum, commonly
64. Mr. Cheadle

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Tread carefully today, because power struggles with others are inevitable. Therefore, when talking to parents, bosses, teachers and VIPs, remember the power of courtesy.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You want to research something deeply today. In other words, you want to get to the bottom of something. Well, you will succeed.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Discussions with a friend or perhaps someone who is a member of a group might come to a head today, especially concerning how to deal with shared property or how to spend an allotted amount of money.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Be careful when talking to bosses, parents and VIPs today, as well as partners and close friends, because power struggles are par for the course. Don't get suckered into something that's just not worth it.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Avoid controversial subjects like religion, politics and racial issues today, because they will disintegrate quickly into arguments. People are opinionated and unwilling to listen. Yikes!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Squabbles about inheritances, shared property and debt might arise today, which is why this is not a good day to discuss those subjects.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Arguments upset your peace of mind. You know this. You need harmony in your surroundings. Therefore, avoid heated discussions with partners and close friends.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Machinery and heavy equipment might break down on the job today. In addition, discussions with others also might break down. (It's one of those days.)

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Be patient when dealing with children today, even if they have hissy fits and meltdowns. (Lots of people feel this way today.) Patience is your best friend.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Family discussions might be difficult today if people insist on getting their own way. Step back and give things some breathing space. By tomorrow, a solution might be obvious.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Don't come on too strong with others today, because you will blow them away! Remember: If you really want people to listen to you, whisper.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Quarrels about property and money are likely today. Don't get involved, because by the end of the week, things will work out nicely.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		9	7	8				
	2				1			
1		3				2		
4		8				6		
2			3			1		
	5				4	9		
		4	2	5	6	8	7	
						3	6	1
							5	2

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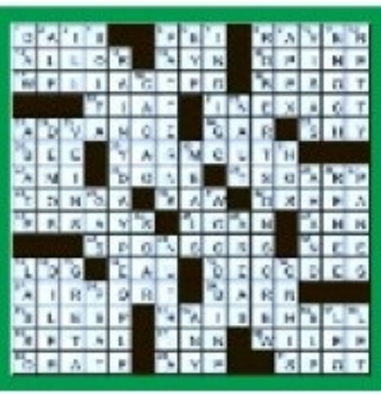
YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



9	8	3	5	2	1	6	4	7
4	2	7	9	3	6	5	1	8
6	5	1	8	7	4	2	3	9
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7	1	8	6	4	3	9	2	5
5	6	4	2	8	9	1	7	3
8	4	5	3	6	2	7	9	1
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1	3	9	4	5	7	8	6	2

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